6th August 1929]

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The only question is the expediency of the sanction accorded by Government. That cannot be, and is not, the subject-matter, of the criminal proceedings that are pending. Therefore I think the motion is in order. I wish to know whether the hon. Mover has got the leave of the House. (After a pause.) Since no Member objects, I declare that the hon. Member has got the leave of the House." 12 noon.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" The motion may be taken up to-morrow afternoon, Sir."

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATHI RAJU :—" No, Sir, the non-official days are not even now sufficient for the transaction of pending non-official business and therefore I submit that this motion may be taken up on an official day so as not trench upon the days allotted for non-official business."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I think the question as to when this item is to be taken up has to be decided more with reference to the interval available after notice has been given. Though no doubt every Member has got the right to move similar motions by mentioning them to me before 11 o'clock, there must be sufficient interval to enable preparations being made and the Standing Order itself was amended for this purpose only. Therefore we will take up the motion at 2-30 p.m. to-morrow."

VIII

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The hon. Sir THOMAS MOIR :—" Mr. President, I move

> '*that a vacancy having occurred in the Finance Committee by the death of M.R.Ry. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu Garu, M.L.C., this Council do proceed to elect a member to the said Committee for the purpose of filling the vacancy*".

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I second the motion."

The motion was put and carried.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I have to inform the House that with reference to Regulation II of the Regulations for the holding of elections by means of the single transferable vote, I fix 3 p.m. to-day as the time by which nominations of candidates for election of a member to the Finance Committee should be sent to the Secretary".

IX

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Sir, I beg to move

> '*that with a view to appoint a House Committee in pursuance of Standing Order No. 80, this Council do proceed to elect six members to be members of the said committee according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.*' "

The hon. Sir THOMAS MOIR :—" I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

[6th August 1929

*The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to inform the House that with reference to Regulation II of the Regulations for the holding of elections by means of the single transferable vote, I fix 3 p.m. to-day as the time by which nominations of candidates for election to the House Committee should be sent to the Secretary."

X

THE MALABAR TENANCY BILL.[a]

*The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to introduce the Malabar Tenancy Bill and move that the Bill be referred to a select committee. If this motion is passed, I propose to ask the leave of the House for the appointment of more than fifteen members in addition to the Member in charge of the Bill to the select committee. If that motion is carried I shall submit to the House the names of the members to be included in the select committee.

"I am sure, Sir, that the subject matter of this Bill is well known to the Members of this House. It has been under the consideration of the Government for a great many years. It has been the subject of anxious enquiry by various distinguished Government officials from Mr. Logan and Sir William Robinson to His Excellency Sir Charles Innes, by eminent Judges of the High Court including Sir Charles Turner and Sir C. Sankaran Nayar and by distinguished non-official gentlemen from Raja Sir T. Madhava Rao to my hon. Friend the Law Member Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. There have been numerous Bills brought forward and the matter has been discussed at great length, but no satisfactory solution has hitherto been obtained which would meet the objections which have been raised in various directions. The last attempt to solve this knotty problem was made by my hon. Friend the Law Member whose Bill was passed by this House. But His Excellency the Governor withheld his assent because he felt that the measure would be unfair towards the janmis and that it was necessary to recognize the rulings of courts which had been in force for many decades. In communicating his refusal to give his assent to the Bill, His Excellency gave notice that the Government would take up the consideration of this matter and introduce a Bill of their own. To that end, the Government first appointed a committee of which the Chairman was Diwan Bahadur T. Raghavayya Pantulu Garu and the terms of reference of that committee were fairly wide. They began by calling upon the committee to investigate and report what disabilities, if any, were pressing hard on the tenants of Malabar in general, to what extent there had been unjustifiable evictions by the janmis in particular and how far kanamdars as such were in need of any protection. The committee was then asked to report on the best means of remedying such disabilities as the committee found really to exist and which they thought should be remedied. The Committee was asked to consider whether the disabilities cannot be removed without the grant of permanent occupancy rights and how far fixity of tenure could be secured for the actual cultivator of the soil; on whom and under what conditions permanent occupancy rights should be conferred if the grant of such rights was found to be necessary; the nature and extent of compensation that should be paid by those on whom such rights are conferred; and the effective methods which should be made available to the janmis to collect rents and other dues from those on whom such rights are conferred.

[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* on 30th July 1929 as Bill No. 9 of 1929.